

REMARKS

The Examiner has objected to Claim 4 due to informalities, in particular the Examiner cites the applicant reciting "the base" in line 2 of Claim 4. Applicant assumes that Examiner had meant to write "Claim 5" and therefore has amended Claim 5 to be more clear.

Examiner has rejected Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended Claim 4, the independent Claim along with Claim 7, the dependent Claim to provide clarity. In the process, Applicant has also added Claim 8 as a new Claim.

Examiner has rejected Claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Theobald et al. (US Patent 5567036) in view of Madadi et al. (US Patent 5688042).

Applicant has amended Claim 2 to include the limitation of "the pairs of light emitting diodes being connected in parallel, with the pairs of diodes being connected in series" to differentiate the present invention from Madadi, that teaches a series connection, and Theobald, which is silent as to whether the connection is in series or in parallel.

Claim 3, which is dependent upon Claim 2, is like-wise changed by the amendment to Claim 2.

Claim 4 is an independent Claim, with 5, 6, and Claim 7 being dependent upon Claim 4. The Examiner rejects Claim 4 - 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Theobald et, in view of Bischoff (US 6158882).

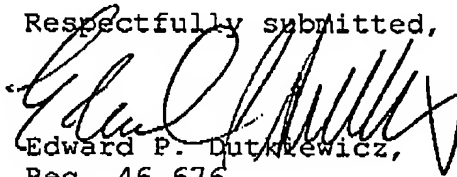
Claim 4 has been amended to distinguish the present invention from the prior art cited by the Examiner. Bischoff teaches a plurality of diodes wired in series, with the pluralities being wired in parallel. Such a configuration is opposite to the configuration taught by the present invention. The Bischoff configuration (Col. 4, Lines 53 - 60), series LED's wired in parallel, comprises a "light tube". Bischoff then teaches that a plurality of light tubes may be wired in series or parallel. The Bischoff patent teaches away from the teachings of the current application.

Applicant submits that the amendments to Claim 4 differentiates the present invention from the cited prior art. Likewise, the dependent Claims, 5 and 6, are also differentiated from the cited prior art.

Examiner rejects Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Theobald in view of Bischoff, as applied to Claim 4, and further in view of Verdes (US 6425678). Neither Theobald, Bischoff, nor Verdes teaches parallel connected diodes connected in series. Verdes teaches diodes wired in series or in parallel, but not pairs of parallel wired diodes connected in

series. Applicant submits that the foregoing amendments and remarks addresses and fully responds to each and every one of the Examiner's objections and rejections. The Applicant, therefore, requests that the Examiner withdraw his objections and rejections and pass the application forward to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward P. Dutkiewicz,
Reg. 46,676

640 Douglas Avenue
Dunedin, FL 34698

Telephone: (727) 734-2855

Facsimile: (727) 734-2750